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## Norms in a Wired World

Social order is regulated from above by the law, but its foundation is built on norms and customs, informal social practices that enable people to make meaningful and productive uses of their time and resources. Despite the importance of these practices in keeping the social fabric together, very little of the jurisprudential literature has discussed these norms and customs.

In *Norms in a Wired World*, Steven A. Hetcher argues that the traditional conception of norms as rulelike linguistic entities is erroneous. Instead, norms must be understood as patterns of rationally governed behavior maintained in groups by acts of conformity. Using informal game theory in the analysis of norms and customs, Hetcher breaks new ground by applying his theory of norms to tort law and Internet privacy laws.

This book will appeal to students and professionals in law, philosophy, and political and social theory.

Steven A. Hetcher is Professor of Law at Vanderbilt Law School.

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# *Norms in a Wired World*

Steven A. Hetcher  
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*This book is dedicated to my mother, Melva K. Hetcher,  
my brother, Nick L. Hetcher,  
and the memory of my father, V. Louis Hetcher.  
They taught me to love. All else is icing on the cake.*

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